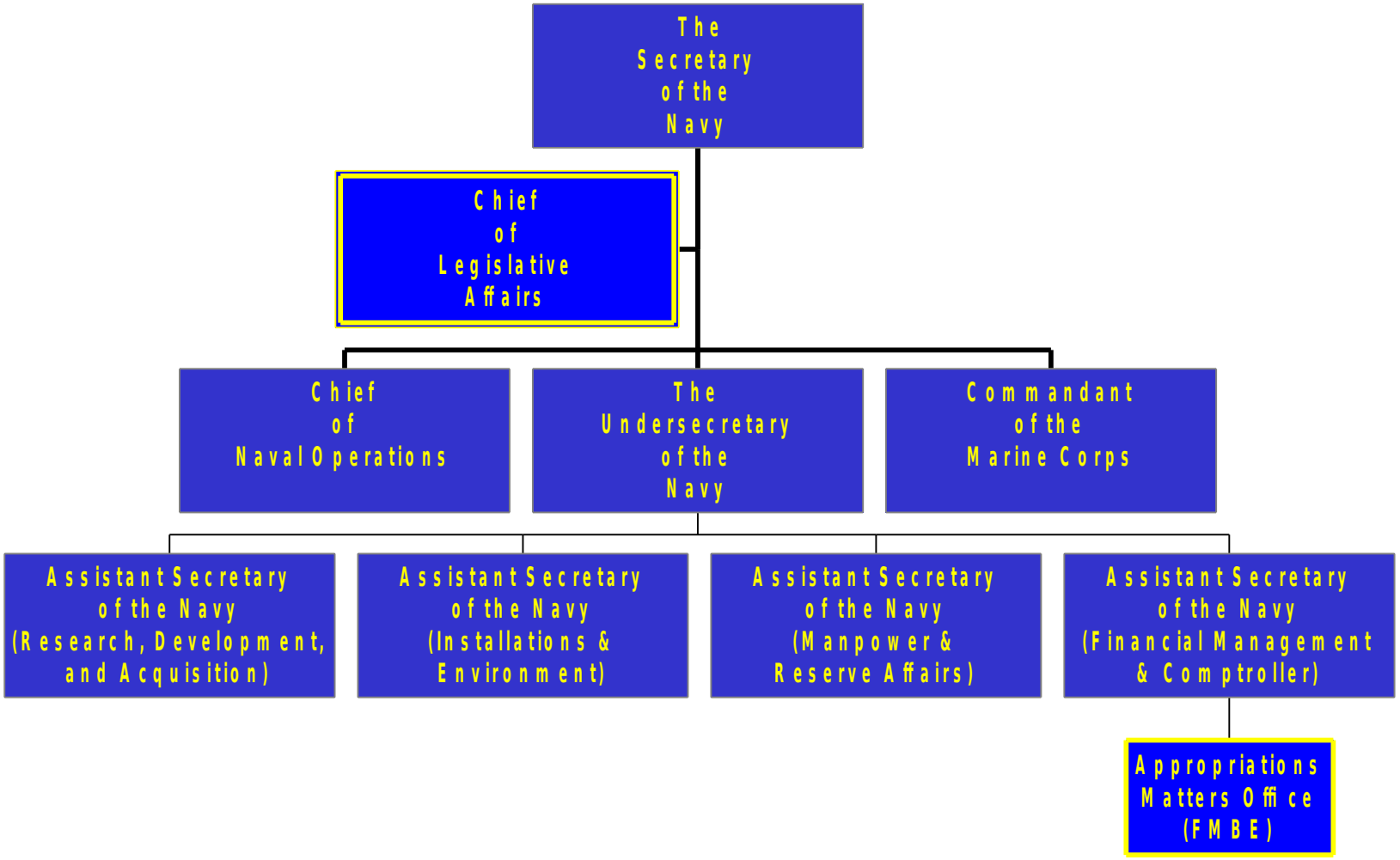
Navy Legislative Affairs

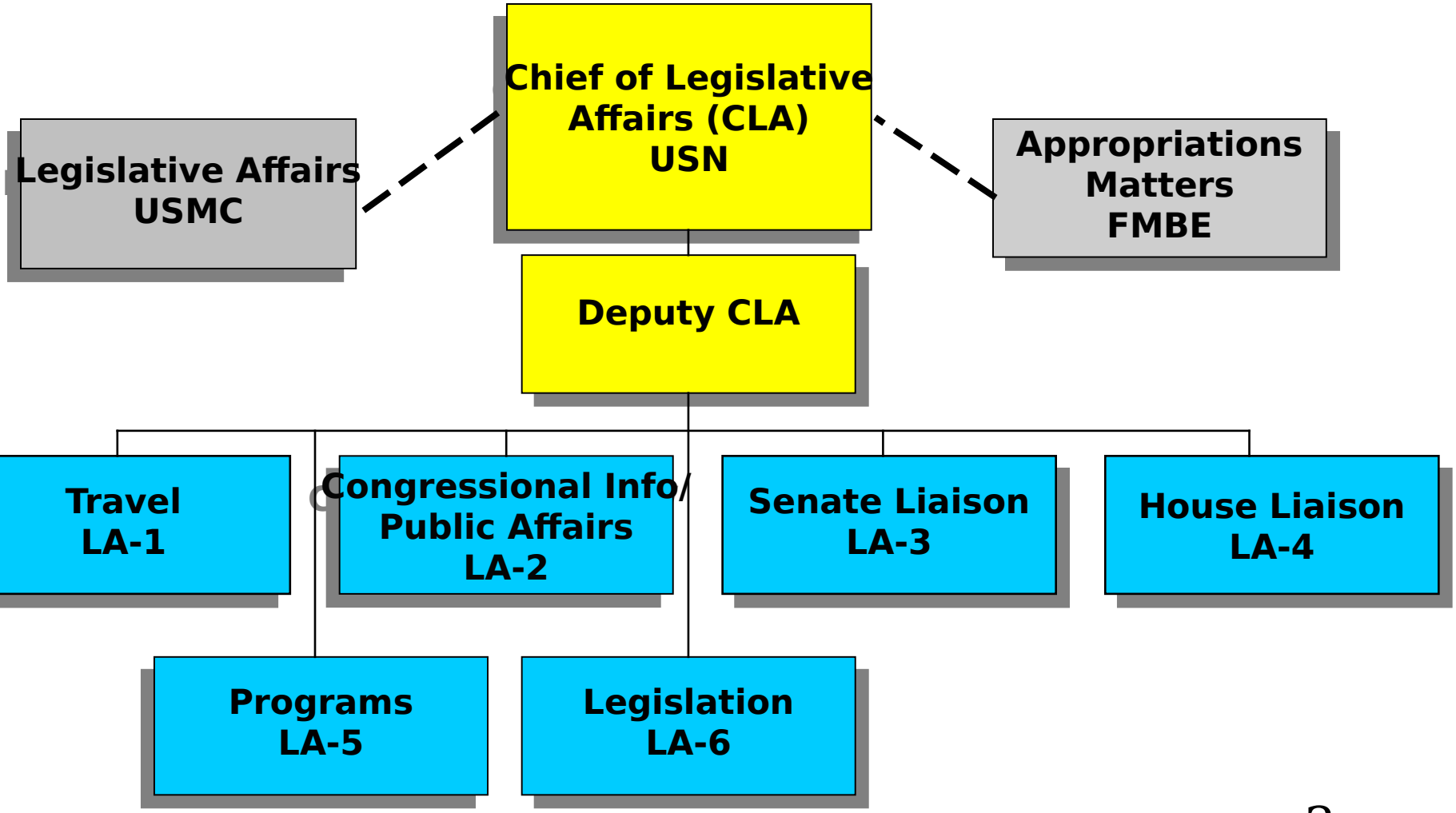
Action Officer Briefing

LCDR Leda Chong
Congressional Liaison
Space, C4ISR, IT Programs
21 September 2004

Navy Organization


The Secretary of the Navy
Chief of Legislative Affairs
Chief of Naval Operations
The Undersecretary of the Navy
Commandant of the Marine Corps
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development, and Acquisition)
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations & Environment)
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower & Reserve Affairs)
Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management & Comptroller)
Appropriations Matters Office (FMBE)

Navy Office of Legislative Affairs

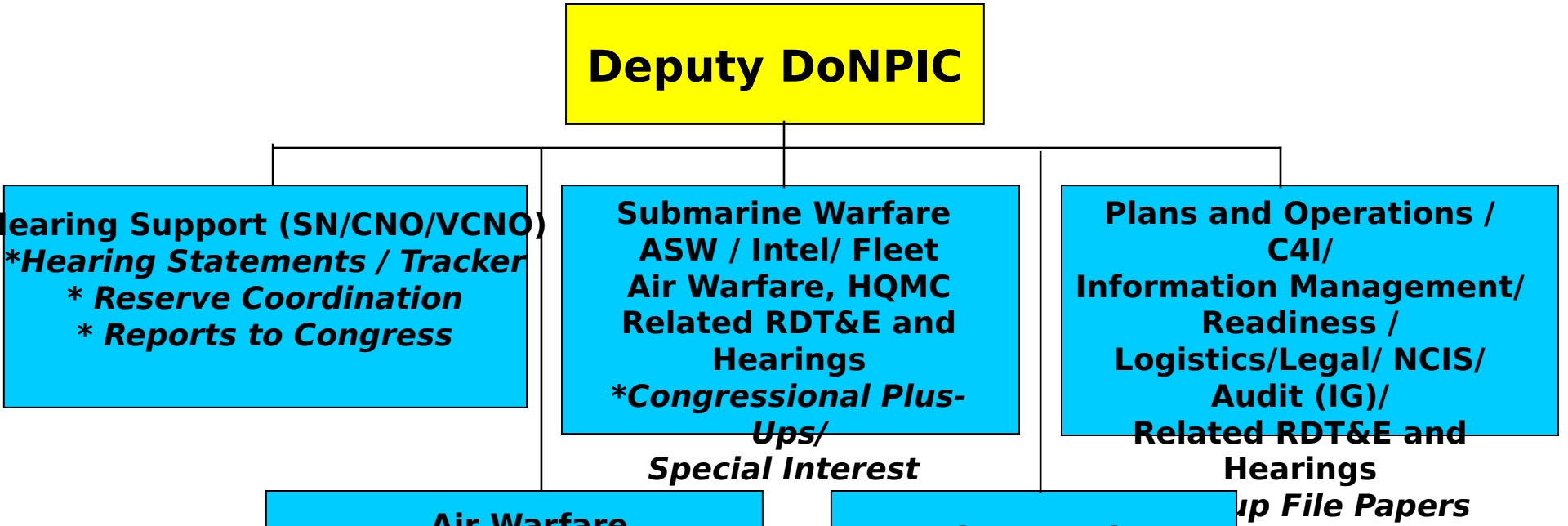


DONPIC (N804)

(Department of the Navy Program Information Center)

- Coordinate preparations for congressional testimony by SECNAV, CNO, & other Navy officials
- Coordinate responses to Congress on programmatic issues
  - Represent DoN position on policies, issues, etc.
  - Support the President's budget
- Storage "Warehouse"/Information Resource for Navy Staffs
  - Congressional Information Management System (CIMS): web based and limited access

DONPIC Organization



Authorizers & Appropriators

- Authorizers (think “OLA”)
  - House & Senate Armed Services Committees (HASC and SASC)
  - Give authority (not funds) to pursue programs or activities and to buy a certain number of things
  - Provide funding limits, pay raises, end strength, policy
- Appropriators (think “FMBE”)
  - House & Senate Appropriations Committees (HAC and SAC)
  - Provide funds
  - Must be equal or less than the amount authorized

Members of Congress

- Dual Responsibilities
  - Representative of his/her constituents and a voice for their interests
  - Formulating national policies

- Sources of support
  - Personal staffs
  - Professional (committee) staffs
  - Congressional Research Service (CRS)
  - Congressional Budget Office (CBO)
  - Government Accountability Office (GAO)

Key Defense Committee Leadership

SASC

- Chair: Sen. Warner
- Ranking: Sen. Levin

HASC

- Chair: Rep. Hunter
- Ranking: Rep. Skelton

SAC-D

- Chair: Sen. Stevens
- Ranking: Sen. Inouye

HAC-D

- Chair: Rep. Lewis
- Ranking: Rep. Murtha

* OLA
* FMBE

Role of Legislative Liaison

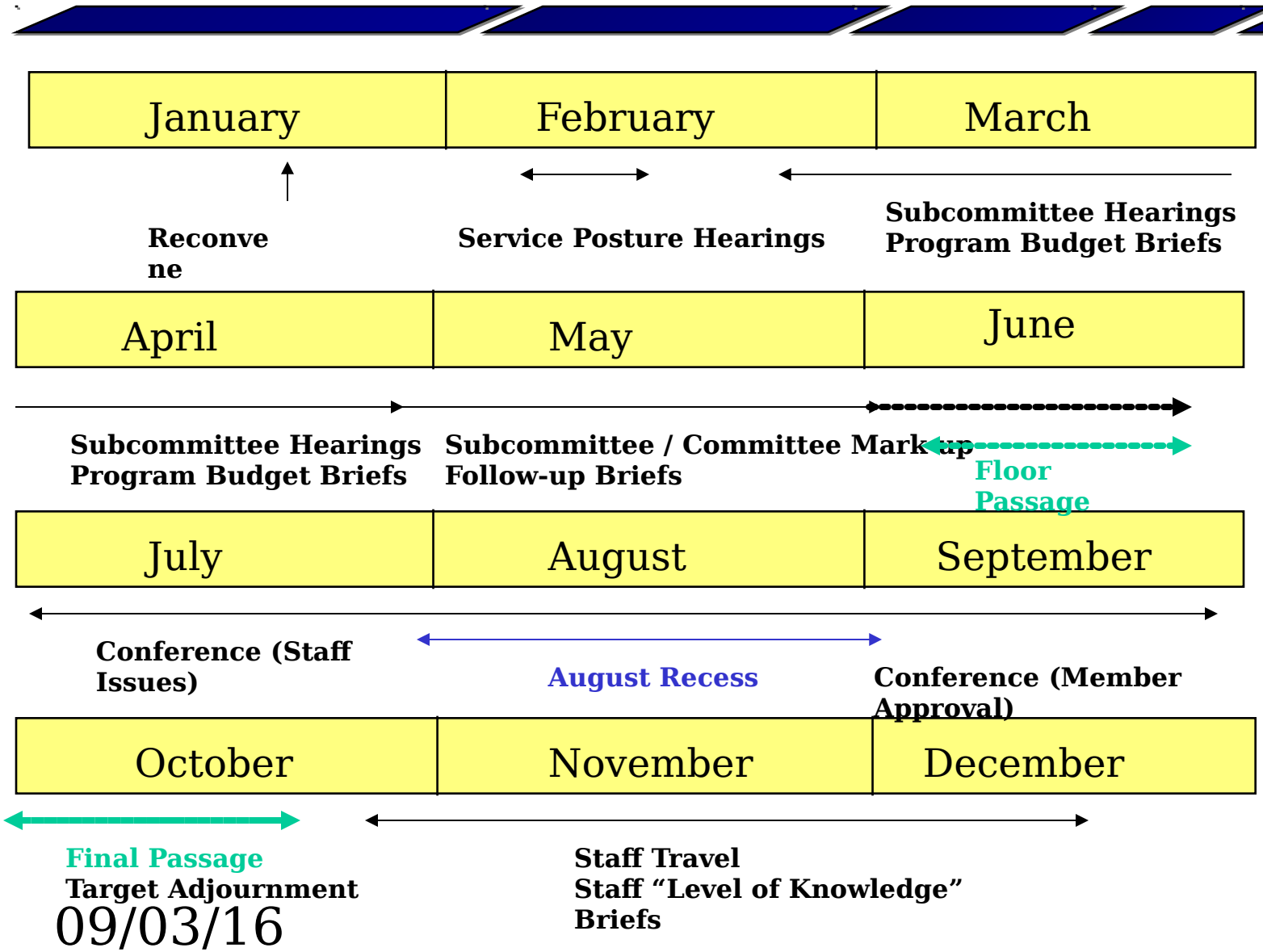
- Move information to/from Congress.
- Central point of contact for all congressional matters.
- Constituent and travel assistance.

The AO/OLA Interface

- OPNAV Action Officers: resident sources of current, accurate information for Navy programs

- OLA: conduit for requests for information (and the responses) between the Navy and the Hill

Notional Congressional Schedule



09/03/16

Where We Are Today

- FY05 Defense Appropriations Act passed
- FY05 Defense Authorization Act in conference
- Goal is to see passage of the Defense Authorization Act by October.
  - Will this occur? TBD!

How Business is Done

- Hearing testimony
- Questions for the record
- Budget/program briefings
- Annual and special reports to Congress
- Responses to inquiries
- Operational/specific member interest briefings
- Congressional budget justification documents
- Appeals to budget mark-up and restrictions
- Congressional travels and visits

Top Legislative Priorities for FY05

- Successfully prosecute GWOT while sustaining current readiness
- Transform our Navy to support the joint warfighter
- Re-capitalize our Navy to support the joint warfighter
- Invest in our personnel – Sea Warrior
- Sustain the quality of our operational training

Legislative Affairs

QUESTIONS ???

LCDR Leda Chong
703-695-6036

BACK UP SLIDES

Congressional Hearings

- Notification/tasking process
  - OLA notified of Hearing by Hill
  - Navy witness identified; tasker placed in system for Hearing support
  - AO assigned to draft testimony
- AO role
  - Talk with witness early in the draft process
    - Identify how witness wants to express Navy position
    - What is the message?
  - Work with cognizant OLA Action Officers
    - Will provide “framing memo,” areas of focus, advance questions
  - Track status of statements to ensure on time delivery
    - Chopped by OPNAV, SECNAV,OLA, OSD, OMB
    - 3-5 days prior to hearing to OSD.
    - 48 hours prior to hearing to committee staff.

QFRs/IFRs

- Questions for the Record (QFR) and Inserts for the Record (IFR) from Congressional Hearings
- Responses impact decisions on Navy program budgets and frame subsequent hearings
- AOs typically draft responses to QFRs/IFRs
- Navy historically late in responding to QFRs/IFRs
- QFRs/IFRs ARE HIGH PRIORITY TASKERS!

Budget/Program Briefings

- Given annually (Feb/Mar) to Defense Committee Staff members by Program Managers.
- Provide Professional Staff detailed info on key Navy programs.
- Form principal basis for Hill decisions on programs.
- Templates can be found via DONPIC's CIMS

Congressional Reports

- Can be periodic or one-time reports on specific issues
- Used by Members/Committee Staffs as basis to formulate legislation and budgetary decisions
- Timely submission critical – impacts Navy's program budget
- HIGH PRIORITY!
- Ensure reports answer the question(s)!

The Budget Cycle

2003 **2004**

SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT

FY04 **Budget Execution**

EVENTS:

FY05

Hearings
Program Briefs
Committees / Conferences
Budget Execution

- **-Backup Files**
- **-Program Briefs**
- **-RFIs/RFBs**
- **-Hearing Statements**
- **-QFRs/IFRs**
- **-Unfunded Programs List**
- **-Congressional Adds**
- **-RFIs/RFBs**
- **-QFRs/IFRs**
- **-RFIs/RFBs**
- **-Side-by-Side**

FY06 **Plan** **Program** **Budget** **OSD/OMB review**